

Claims

I claim:

- 5 1. A hardware cabinet comprising:
a chassis configured for mounting multiple heat-generating electronic systems; and
a door mounted to the chassis to allow access into the cabinet and having:
 - a solid face that extends from a top portion of the door along a majority of the door's length; and
 - 10 an opening formed in a lower portion of the door to allow chilled air to enter the cabinet;
 - where the chassis is structured so that, when electronic systems are mounted in the cabinet, a plenum is formed between the door and the electronic systems, such that air entering the cabinet is able to rise between the door and the electronic systems.
- 15 2. The cabinet of claim 1, where the door includes a screen placed over the opening.
- 20 3. The cabinet of claim 1, where the chassis includes an opening positioned to allow more chilled air to enter the cabinet.
4. The cabinet of claim 3, where the opening in the chassis is positioned near the opening in the door.
- 25 5. The cabinet of claim 1, where the amount by which the plenum separates the door from the electronic systems is a function of one or more of the following factors: size of the opening in the door, size of an opening in the chassis through which chilled air enters the cabinet, characteristics of the heat-generating systems that are to be placed inside the cabinet, and characteristics of fans used in the heat-generating systems.